

HISPANIC AMERICAN Heritage Month 2002

Diversity

Unity

Faith

Strength
in Unity, Faith, and Diversity

Directorate of Research
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Preface

Major John F. Williams, 643rd Area Support Group, Whitehall, Ohio, served as a participant in the Topical Research Intern Program at the Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute (DEOMI) from March 21 to April 20, 2002. He conducted the necessary research to prepare this report. The Institute thanks Major Williams for his contributions to the research efforts of DEOMI.

Scope

The Topical Research Intern Program provides the opportunity for Service members and DoD civilian employees to work on diversity/equal opportunity projects while on a 30-day tour of duty at the Institute. During their tour, the interns use a variety of primary and secondary source materials to compile a review of data or research pertaining to an issue of importance to equal opportunity (EO) and equal employment opportunity (EEO) specialists, supervisors, and other leaders throughout the Services. The resulting publications (such as this one) are intended as resource and educational materials and do not represent official policy statements or endorsements by the DoD or any of its agencies. The publications are distributed to EO/EEO personnel and selected senior officials to aid them in their duties. Additionally, to reach the widest audience possible, the publications are posted on the Internet at:

<https://www.patrick.af.mil/deomi/deomi.htm>

The opinions expressed in this report are those of the author and should not be construed to represent the official position of DEOMI, the military Services, or the Department of Defense.

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Introduction

This is a time of unprecedented growth and recognition for Hispanics in America. The 2000 Census results show Hispanics and African Americans in a virtual tie as the largest minority group. Hispanics are clearly the fastest growing minority segment, and that growth is projected to continue. Hispanic Heritage Month is a time to explore the Hispanic experience and gain a better understanding about this very diverse group. It is also a time to recognize some of the contributions Hispanics have made in the past and to explore Hispanic Heritage.

The 2002 theme for Hispanic Heritage Month this year is *Hispanic Americans: Strength in Unity, Faith, and Diversity*. This publication includes demographic information with specific information on diversity within the Hispanic culture including a detailed history about Mexicans, Puerto Ricans, and Cubans.

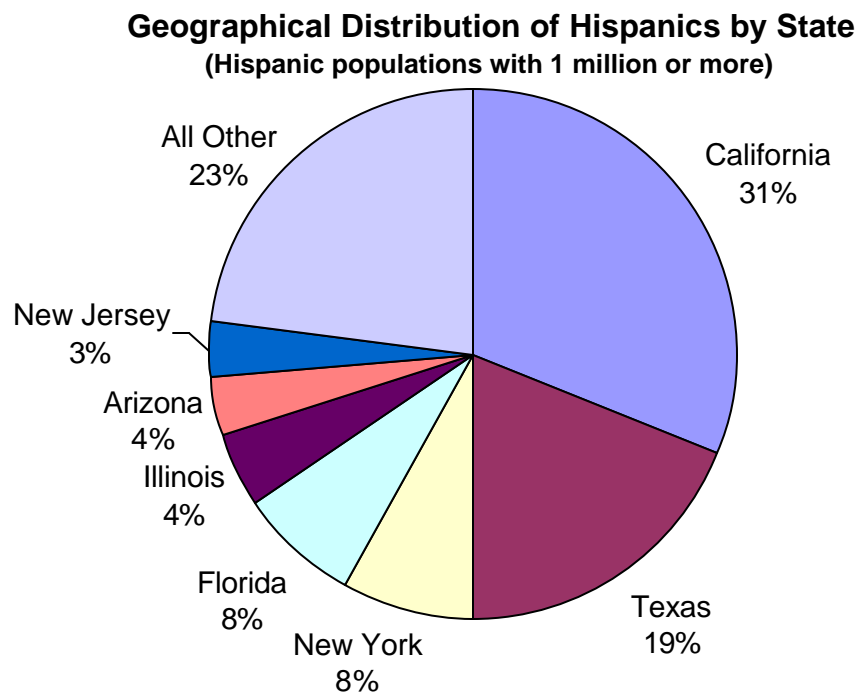
Faith has a strong role within the Hispanic culture; therefore, historical and traditional information is provided about religious practices and customs. The concept of family is very influential within all Hispanics. This paper introduces terminology used to help explain the fundamental concept of family.

While the publication cannot cover all contributions of Hispanics, an appendix is included which is designed as a calendar that highlights specific events and people throughout the 30 days of Hispanic Heritage Month.

Demographics

In the 1990 Census, Hispanics numbered 22 million or 9% of the total U.S. population. In the 2000 Census, Hispanics numbered 35 million or 12.5% of the population. This equates to a 58% increase in Hispanic population, compared to a total population increase of 13% over the same 10-year period. (54) Hispanics have been the fastest growing minority group and are essentially tied with African Americans as the largest minority group. (54)

Half of all Hispanics live in two states: California and Texas. Hispanics in California accounted for 11 million (31.1%) of the total Hispanic population, while the Hispanic population in Texas accounted for 6.7 million (18.9 %). In 2000, 27.1 million or 76.8% of Hispanics lived in the seven states as shown in the graph below.



There are nine states where Hispanics were 12.5% of the state population or higher: New Mexico (41%), California (32.4%), Texas (32%), Arizona (25.3%), Nevada (19.7%), Colorado (17.1%), Florida (16.8%), New York (15.1%), and New Jersey (13.3%). (57)

Diversity

Diversity in American society offers many opportunities for growth and many challenges. There is much diversity in the Hispanic community. Many individual ethnicities are classified as Hispanic. This paper looks at various definitions of the term Hispanic and reviews some of the prominent Hispanic cultures.

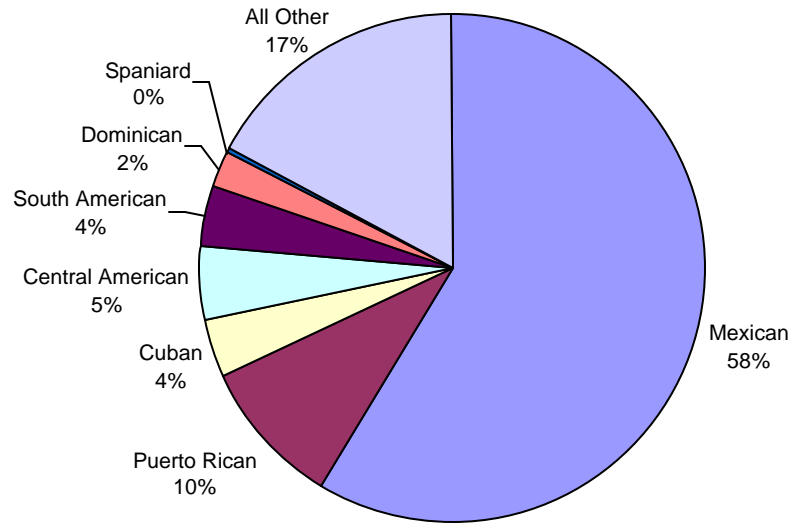
Distribution

The term Hispanic is not the only title used to describe this segment of society. On the West coast, many prefer the term Latino, while in the southwest Hispanic is preferred. Some, especially in the Mexican American community, use the term Chicano to describe themselves. A Latino is a person of Latin American origin living in the United States, while a Chicano is defined as an American of Mexican descent. When describing the population in the United States composed of those with Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Spanish, and Latin American heritage, the more accepted terms are Hispanic or Latino. (58)

Department of Defense Directive 1350.2 defines Hispanic as “A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Mexico, Puerto Rico, Cuba, Central or South America, or of other Spanish cultures, regardless of race.” (9A) In the 2000 Census, it was left up to the individual to identify if they were Spanish/Hispanic/Latino. If the answer was yes, then the individual had to decide if they were Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, or Other. If the Other category was chosen, the individual could write-in a response. There are two central themes in determining who is Hispanic; a common language and lineage that can be traced back to Spain or Latin America. Of the 35 million Hispanics in the United States, 48% reported their race as only White; 42% some other race; 6% two or more races; 2% Black or African American. (56)

The 2000 Census is the first that has attempted to break down the Hispanic group and determine the distribution by cultural background. The following graph shows, by percentage size, the largest seven groups under the umbrella of Hispanics.

Percentage Distribution of the Hispanic Population



Note that the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and the U.S. island areas (i.e., Virgin Islands, etc.) were excluded from the Census results. All Other Hispanics are those that responded as Hispanic but did not indicate what origin. (56) The overwhelming majority of Hispanics in the United States are of Mexican origin. Those identified under Central American included: Salvadorans, Guatemalans, Hondurans, Costa Ricans, Nicaraguans, and Panamanians. South Americans were those with origins in Columbia, Ecuador, Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Paraguay, Uruguay, Venezuela, and Peru. (57)

Journey to America

The path that each Hispanic group took to the United States is as diverse as the groups that make up today's Hispanic population. The following is a brief overview of three groups within the Hispanic population.

Mexicans

While the story of Hispanics in the United States involves people from throughout the Americas, the century-old, deeply complex relationship between the United States and Mexico lies at the heart of the tale. The story begins with the defeat and subjugation of native peoples by Spanish conquistadors who used present-day Mexico as the center of their expanding New World empire. In the 16th Century, the Spanish launched exploratory missions deep into what now are the American Southwest and Gulf Coast regions long before the first English settlers arrived on the eastern seaboard. Ever since, Hispanic culture has permeated American culture and, while the political boundaries between Mexico and the United States have not changed in a century and a half, cultural and economic borders have only existed in theory, not in practice. (48:1.01) Of the 35.3

million Hispanics in the United States today, 58.5% or 20.6 million are of Mexican origin. (57)

In 1519, a conquistador named Hernan Cortes, spurred by tales of gold and jewelry, formed an expedition of 400 Spaniards and 3,000 Indians and headed west from the Caribbean to invade Mexico. Less than two years later, wasted by European diseases to which they had no immunity and overwhelmed by Spanish weapons, the Aztec surrendered their fortune and capital, Tenochtitlan (present-day Mexico City), to the conquerors. This brought other conquistadors to search for new empires and wealth in what are now northern and southern Mexico and Central America. Little gold was found outside the central valley of Mexico. (48:1.13) By the 17th Century, the Spanish empire in the New World stretched from present-day Santa Fe, New Mexico in the north to Santiago, Chile and Buenos Aires, Argentina in the south. (48:1.15) The extent of Spanish exploration of and migration to the New World went hand in hand with Spain's fortunes at home in Europe. Throughout most of the 16th Century, Spain was Europe's dominant power. Upon the defeat of the Spanish Armada by England in 1588, Spanish power weakened considerably. Spain was an empire in decline. Fewer and fewer Spaniards would sail for the Americas during the 17th Century. (48:1.17)

Spanish speaking people have inhabited what is now the United States since the establishment of the settlement at St. Augustine, Florida in 1565. Soon after, New Mexico, California, and Texas were claimed and settled by the Spanish. Spain held these colonies until 1821, when Florida was ceded to the United States and the other territories to Mexico when it became independent. (48:2.01) In 1821, Mexico was much larger than it is today. It essentially encompassed what today are Mexico, Arizona, California, Nevada, Utah, New Mexico, Texas, part of Colorado, and part of Wyoming. Over the next 17 years, however, Mexico lost more than half of this land to the United States. Mexico lost Texas in the Texas War of Independence in 1836. All other lands, with the exception of present day Mexico, were conquered by the United States in 1846-1847 and formally ceded under the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo in 1848. (48:2.10)

When Mexico gained independence from Spain in 1821 and, with it, control of Texas, it imposed Mexican citizenship, rules, and religion on the American settlers there. (48:2.13) White Americans who had settled in Texas found it difficult to live under Mexican rule from the outset. They had an aversion to the Spanish language and the Mexican laws and legal system (in particular, the nonexistence of juries). The White Americans also feared the threat of losing the institution of slavery on which they were so dependent. Indeed, in 1829 the Mexican government abolished slavery, during the liberal administration of Vincente Guerrero, the second Mexican president under the constitution. (28:21) When the Mexican republic abolished slavery, it affected few people, as Mexicans had few slaves. In Texas, however, the situation was different. By the early 19th Century, thousands of Americans, encouraged to settle in the last years of Spanish rule, had arrived in Texas with hundreds of Black slaves. In 1835, Texas declared their right to secede from Mexico. In response, the current Mexican president, Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, raised an Army and marched on Texas. On February 23, the Mexican army began its assault on the Alamo in San Antonio, taking on heavy

casualties before massacring the several hundred Texan defenders on March 6. (48:2.13) After the massive defeat at the Alamo, the Texas army, led by General Sam Houston, fled eastward with Santa Anna's troops in hot pursuit. At Goliad, a town east of San Antonio, the Mexicans decisively defeated the Texans and, as at the Alamo, they took no prisoners. These defeats served to galvanize the Texan resistance and eventually lead to the defeat and capture of Santa Anna. (28:23). Santa Anna then recognized Texas as an independent nation. Perhaps the most famous event in the history of Texas, the battle of the Alamo was actually a loss for the Texans fighting for independence from Mexico. The importance of the battle was more in the myths it spawned. Following the unsuccessful but heroic defense of the San Antonio fort by several hundred Texans against a Mexican army of 10,000, American volunteers - having read exciting accounts in newspapers with headlines screaming Remember the Alamo! - flocked to Texas by the thousands to help settlers win their independence from Mexico. (48:2.14)

In 1845, the United States annexed Texas as a slave state. The next year saw the start of the Mexican American War. The two-year war was an uneven contest. Within a year, U.S. troops had occupied most of northern Mexico and seized its capital, Mexico City. In February of 1848, the Mexican government signed the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, which brought the war officially to an end. (48:3.07)

The Treaty provided \$15 million to Mexico for the vast territories of New Mexico, Arizona, and California and parts of Nevada, Utah, and Colorado. Mexicans in the conquered Southwest territory were to "be incorporated into the union of the United States and admitted as soon as possible, according to the principles of the federal constitution, to the enjoyment of all rights of citizens of the United States. In the meantime, they shall be maintained and protected in the enjoyment of their liberty, their property, and civil rights now vested in them according to the Mexican laws."

Unfortunately, the United States did not live up to these assurances. The seizure of Mexican lands was enforced by both acts of violence and a series of court decisions and laws that served to legalize the denial of Mexican property rights. (48:3.07) Some 80,000 Mexicans called the territories acquired by the United States home.

In the second half of the 19th Century, a great need for agricultural labor developed in the United States, and Mexicans from south of the border helped to fill it. Railroads were being built; cotton, fruit, and vegetable farms were expanding. The Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882 curtailed one source of laborers, and later the Immigration Acts of 1921 and 1924 curtailed another. However, the demands for labor, especially for agricultural workers increased, and the Mexicans left their poverty-stricken country for the economic opportunities available in the United States. (40:403) Between 1900 and 1930, over 500,000 Mexicans entered the United States legally. Many more entered undocumented. This rapid immigration, supported by Mexico's proximity and interwoven history with the United States, is key in Mexican Americans' position as the majority segment of the Hispanic population. Today, the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) continues to increase the cultural and material ties between Mexico and the United States.

Puerto Ricans

Today, Puerto Rico is a freely associated Commonwealth of the United States. Puerto Ricans share most of the rights and obligations of other U.S. citizens. Key differences are: 1) Residents of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico may not vote in U.S. Presidential elections, and 2) Residents are not required to pay Federal income taxes (federal employees and members of the Armed Forces are required to pay Federal income taxes). (42)

Spain conquered Puerto Rico in 1509, thus making it a colony under Spanish rule. It remained a Spanish colony until 1898, when after the Spanish American War, the Treaty of Paris ceded Puerto Rico to the United States. In 1917, the U.S. Congress passed the Jones Act granting United States citizenship to Puerto Ricans. While the Act gave Puerto Ricans rights that they otherwise would not have had as non-citizens, advocates of Puerto Rican independence were angered by the move. They viewed the Jones Act as the definitive sign that the island would not achieve independence anytime soon. (48:4.16). The U.S.'s immigration policy also influenced the pattern of migration from Puerto Rico. Two National Origin Quota Acts designed to curtail immigration from eastern and southern Europe and Asia were passed in 1921 and 1924, respectively. With fewer workers coming in from these areas, a labor shortage ensued. The Western Hemisphere was not included in the quota policy, however, and so employers turned there for labor. Mexico became a major source for labor, as did Puerto Rico. It was easier for recruiters to target Puerto Ricans because they could travel freely to mainland U.S. as citizens. (28:42)

The most massive migration of Puerto Ricans, almost two million, occurred after World War II. They came in response to a classical push-pull phenomenon. Simply put, wages were higher and employment was more plentiful than on the island. One of the unique features of this migration was that it was airborne. By 1947, over 20 airlines provided service between San Juan and New York. In the 1950's, Puerto Ricans were also landing in New Jersey cities and paid, on average, \$40 for a one-way ticket. (28:43)

In 1952, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico was born. This gave Puerto Ricans the opportunity to write their own constitution and elect their own representatives. It also allowed Puerto Rico to keep Spanish as its official language. Since becoming a Commonwealth, there have been many attempts to become a state, but questions regarding the retention of Spanish as the official language and the phasing in of the Federal taxes have always derailed any attempts at statehood. There are some factions on the island that have pushed for complete independence, but this was soundly rejected during the last referendum. (42)

Cubans

Following the Spanish American War of 1898, Cuba gained its independence from Spain. What followed were four years of direct occupation by the United States and sixty years of United States influence and control, made possible by the Platt Amendment of 1902. This Amendment required the Cuban government to: “maintain a low public debt; refrain from signing any treaty impairing its obligation to the United States; to grant to the United States the right of intervention to protect life, liberty, and property; validate the acts of the military government; and if requested, provide long term naval leases.” (60)

Castro’s rise to power in 1959 led to the migration of many displaced well-educated upper and middle class Cubans to the United States. Because they were viewed as opposition to the only communist regime in the Western Hemisphere, many in the United States welcomed the Cuban immigrants. The Cubans began to concentrate in major cities, mainly Miami and New York. With their educational status and acceptance by many that opposed communism, the Cuban immigrants fared much better than most of the previous immigrants to the United States. (28:49)

In 1980, the largest single influx of Cubans to the U.S. occurred with the Mariel Boatlift. After more than 10,000 disillusioned Cubans stormed into the Peruvian embassy in Havana in search of political asylum and safe conduct out of Cuba, Castro announced that all who wished to leave were free to assemble at the port of Mariel. (10)

Upon hearing the news, Cuban exiles living in Florida organized a flotilla of 42 boats. With Castro's blessings, they began the round-the-clock evacuation of the “Havana Ten Thousand,” and U.S. President Jimmy Carter, as did Presidents before him, decided to welcome the new influx of Cuban exiles. (28:49). This sparked the famous “Freedom Flotilla” that between April - September of 1980 brought 125,000 Cubans of all classes to the Florida shores. (47)

The new refugees differed significantly from the earlier waves of displaced Cubans. Few were from the upper and middle classes of pre-Castro Cuba, as were previous exiles then living in the United States, and there were other differences. The new arrivals were more reflective of the general racial composition of Cuba; many Blacks and Mulattos were in the Mariel Boatlift. Furthermore, in a crafty move, Castro deliberately cast out many political and social misfits during the boatlift, an act that unfairly stigmatized the majority of the 1980 émigrés who were from the mainstream population of Cubans. (28:49)

Faith

Religion has always been a central part of the Hispanic heritage. From the beginning, the Spanish visitors to the New World were determined to bring their religion to the native people they encountered. Today, religion continues to be an important piece of Hispanic culture.

Historical

Catholicism, the religious affiliation of the majority of U.S. Hispanics, came to the New World with Christopher Columbus in 1492. The Spanish conquerors, filled with the religious ardor of their day, were not content with seizing and claiming kingdoms and treasures in the name of the Spanish sovereigns; they also wanted to win over the inhabitants of the newly discovered territories to Christianity. This was a natural development, for Spain had just fought for seven centuries a religious crusade against the Moors on its own soil. Throughout the first two centuries of European presence in the Americas, Spain was the most zealous daughter of the Roman church. (28:253)

Uniformity of religious belief was one of the pillars on which the Spanish empire rested. The significance of the year 1492 goes far beyond the fateful encounter with the Americas; it constitutes the boundary between religious plurality and uniformity for Spain. Following that date, Spain tolerated no religion other than Catholicism on its soil or in the vast lands it set forth to bring beneath its imperial empire. In April, the monarchs gave notice to the Jews that they had until July to repudiate their faith or leave Spain. An estimated 140,000 chose the road to exile. From then on, only the Cross would follow the sword of the Spanish soldiers both on the European battlefields and in the newly discovered regions of the Americas. (28:254)

Early on, the Spanish determined that the American Indians were made in God's image and likeness and were endowed with an immortal soul and converting them to Christianity became a sacred mandate for the Spaniards. In Bernal Diaz del Castillo's account of Hernan Cortes' conquest of Mexico, he states that after each village and town surrendered to the conquistadors, the Spaniards immediately took time to destroy the pagan idols and temples and in their place erected crosses and shrines of the Virgin Mary. To Cortes and most Spaniards of his day, the conquest was not merely a political and economic enterprise, but a religious crusade. This was in contrast with their English counterparts, who felt the natives were less than human, unworthy of the Christian promise, children of the devil. (28:254)

One of the key events in the conversion of the native Indians to the Catholic Church was the appearance of the Virgin Mary or Our Lady of Guadalupe on Dec 12, 1531. This was the first appearance of the Virgin Mary in the New World. According to the Catholic faithful, the Virgin Mary appeared to the Indian Juan Diego on the hill of

Tepeyac, just outside Mexico City. She appeared to Juan Diego with Indian features on the side of a temple devoted to the Aztec goddess Malintzin and miraculously caused her image to be emblazoned on his poncho. This image is the one guarded at today's Shrine of the Virgin of Guadalupe, built on the original site, and duplicated in the thousands of churches bearing the Virgin's name wherever Mexicans live. (27:233)

The miraculous appearance of the Virgin of Guadalupe led to the rapid and massive conversion of many of the American Indians in Mexico and the other American lands being conquered and incorporated by the Spaniards. (27:234)

Today

Religion has been and continues to be an important part of the Hispanic culture. Catholicism is still the dominant religion, but a recent study shows that about 22% of Hispanics identify their religion as one of the Protestant denominations. (51) As the Hispanic community grows and diversifies even further, there are new issues to face. Existing Hispanic ministries continue to reach out to the growing numbers in and out of their communities. Non-Hispanic churches are intensifying their efforts to reach out to the Hispanics in the community, while Hispanic churches still must deal with the diversity inherent in the Hispanic culture.

As Hispanic churches grow, or as new ones are established, they must be prepared to minister to all Hispanic cultures, says Walter Contreras, the Evangelical Covenant Church Hispanic coordinator. "I am Argentinean. My work involves a lot of acculturation to the many different Latino cultures, because it is not just about knowing Spanish,...I have had to learn how to be a Mexican, how to be a Puerto Rican, how to accommodate my speech patterns and social skills," he explained. One group, The National Alliance of Evangelical Ministries, or AMEN promotes unity among diverse Latino subcultures. Their goal is to unify the church as a whole. The AMEN director, Jesse Miranda, says, "An integrated church will reflect Spanish culture in its services and include Hispanic leaders." (4)

As the number of Hispanics increase, many existing non-Hispanic churches find themselves reaching out to the Hispanics in the community in an effort to grow and to incorporate more of the community. When this happens, often issues of culture and language must be addressed. Efraim Espinoza, the Spanish language editor of Pentecostal Evangel magazine, received a call from a pastor who started a church in what was a predominantly non-Hispanic area: North Liberty, Iowa. "He called for help because of the influx of Hispanics," Espinoza said. Many churches in recognition of the growing number of Hispanics have included Hispanic ministries in their strategic planning. (4)

Hispanic ministries continue to reach out to those in the community. "Our churches have been doing the ministry in the community and we are poised for more," says Pastor Danny De Leon, who hosts the Spanish language *700 Club* television

program. “Thirty-five million Hispanics does not mean 35 million people in need, 35 million liabilities. There is a wealth and strength that the nation has been tapping into and will continue to tap. These numbers are a blessing to the nation not a curse.” Indeed the Hispanic ministries have been successful, as evidenced by the preliminary results of the Hispanic Churches in American Public Life (HCAPL) study. Its purpose is to take a three-year look at how Hispanics understand the intersection of faith and civic responsibility. Cosponsored by AMEN and the Mexican American Cultural Center, a Catholic organization, HCAPL brings together Latino Catholic, Protestant, and Pentecostal traditions. Preliminary results showed that 74 percent of Hispanics say that religion provides a great deal or quite a bit of guidance in their lives. In a similar poll conducted in 1997, only 60 percent of the general population considered religion to be of high importance in their personal lives. (4)

Customs and Terms

Hispanic Catholic Customs

Pilgrimages: Pilgrimages are organized wherever large groups of Hispanics reside such as the Shrine of the Virgin of Guadalupe in Mexico City; the Shrine of Our Lady of San Juan de los Lagos in Mexico; and the Shrine to La Caridad del Cobre facing Biscayne Bay in Coral Gables. (48:7.01)

Ex votos: Many Hispanics present gifts to the Saints in gratitude for their protection and/or help. In colonial times, these were primitive drawings on wood or tin showing the miracle performed by the Saint and often were with a written description. Modern *Ex votos* may be photographs, bridal wreaths, baby shoes, letters of thanks, and the traditional milagrito (a charm, made from tin, gold, or silver in the shape of an arm, leg, baby, or house). (48:7.01)

Hispanic Religious Terms

Spiritism:

- Spiritism often coexists with curanderismo (folk medicine).
- It is a science founded in 19th Century Europe, which reached Latin America in the 1860's.
- Spiritists invoke the spirits of the dead through mediums, seeking advice and guidance through the dead.
- Spirits invoked range from famous figures such as Napoleon, to ordinary people such as a relative or a craftsman. (48:7.01)

Spiritualism:

- Developed in Mexico during the 19th Century; it is practiced by many Catholics.

- Spiritualists consider themselves vehicles or cajas (boxes) for great religious figures and use these powers to heal others.
- Today, there is a popular movement to canonize these healing figures by the Catholic Church. (48:7.01)

Unity

October 12, 1492 is the mythical date of origin for Hispanics known as El Dia de la Raza (The Day of the Race). This is the day that Christopher Columbus landed in the Antilles and began the mixing of Europeans, indigenous Americans, and Africans. (13:6) While this idea of a Hispanic race is not accepted by all, there is a unique Hispanic identity that is linked by language and reinforced by media groupings and census statistics. Many organizations are working for the betterment of Hispanics as a unique united people. Two of the more visible organizations are the Congressional Hispanic Caucus (CHC) and the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU). The HACU has focused on improving the educational attainment of the Hispanic community, and CHC is working to advance ideas of particular concern to the Hispanic community. Institutions like these, coupled with the strong influence of the Hispanic family, demonstrate the strength found in Hispanic unity.

Congressional Hispanic Caucus

The CHC is an informal group of 18 members of Congress of Hispanic descent. The Caucus is dedicated to voicing and advancing, through the legislative process, issues affecting Hispanic Americans in the United States and the insular areas. The CHC was founded in December 1976 as a legislative service organization of the U.S. House of Representatives. Today, the CHC is organized as a congressional member organization, governed under the Rules of Congress, and comprised solely of members of the United States Congress.

Although every issue that affects the quality of life of Americans is of concern to the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, there are national and international issues that have a particular impact on the Hispanic community. The function of the Caucus is to serve as a forum for the Hispanic members of Congress to band together around a collective legislative agenda. In addition to covering legislative action, the CHC also monitors executive and judicial policies that affect Hispanics. (7)

One of the important contributions CHC has made is the founding of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute (CHCI). The mission of the CHCI is to develop the next generation of Hispanic leaders. Their vision is an educated and civically active Latino community who participate at the local, state, and Federal policy decision-making levels. The CHCI seeks to accomplish its mission by offering educational and leadership development programs, services, and activities that promote the growth of participants as effective professionals and strong leaders. In the spirit of building coalitions, CHCI

seeks to establish partnerships with other Hispanic and non-Hispanic organizations. The CHCI has many scholarship and Internship programs available to develop future Hispanic leaders. (7)

Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities

According to the 2000 Census Bureau, Hispanics trail all other segments in educational attainment. For the total U.S. population aged 25 and older, 84.1% have at least a high school degree and 25.6% have a bachelor degree or higher. For Hispanics aged 25 and older, 56.6% have a high school degree and 10.6% have a bachelor degree or higher. (See Tables 1 & 2 below). (55)

Table 1

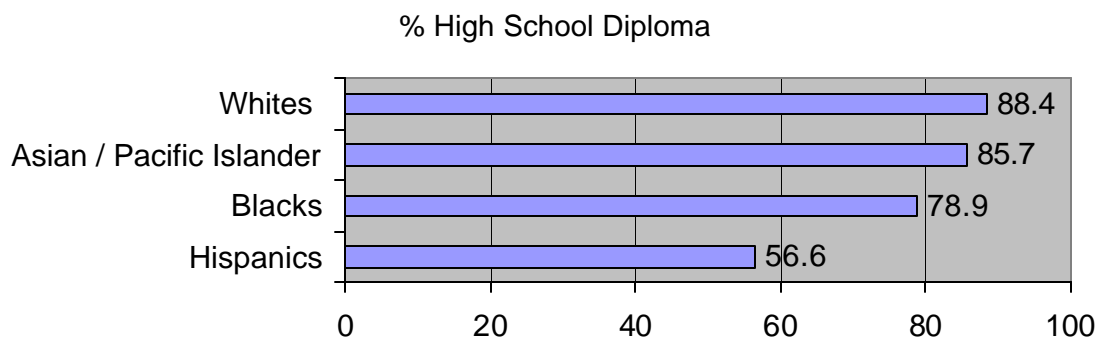
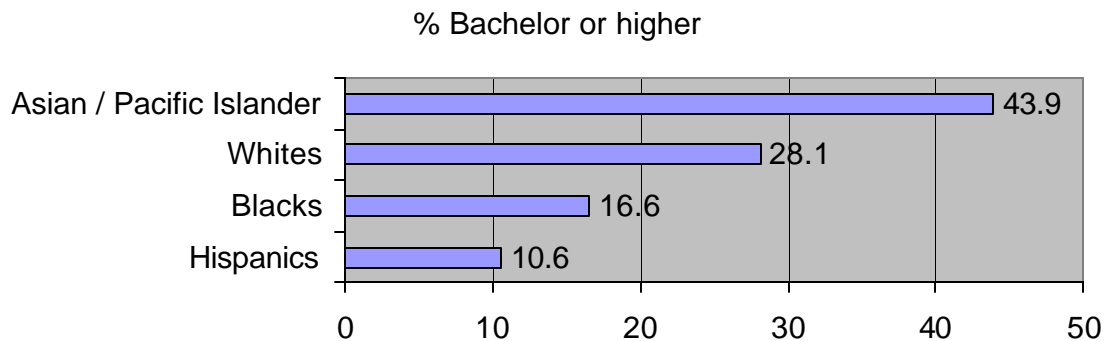


Table 2



The HACU was established in 1986 by a small group of education leaders who recognized that poverty and language barriers, among other factors, were preventing Hispanics from reaching their full academic potential. The HACU's missions are: 1) to promote the development of member colleges and universities; 2) to improve access to and the quality of post-secondary educational opportunities for Hispanic students; and 3)

to meet the needs of business, industry, and government through the development and sharing of resources, information, and expertise. Today, the HACU represents more than 280 colleges and universities committed to Hispanic higher education success in the U.S., Puerto Rico, Latin America, and Spain. The HACU is the only national educational association that represents Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSIs). By definition, HSIs are accredited and degree granting public or private nonprofit institutions of higher education with at least 25 percent or more total undergraduate Hispanic full-time equivalent student enrollment. Although the HACU member institutions in the U.S. represent less than 7% of all higher education institutions nationwide, together they are home to more than two-thirds of all Hispanic college students. The HACU played an essential role in winning formal Federal recognition for HSIs and persuading Congress to target special funds for HSIs. This funding has increased from \$12 million in 1997 to \$68.5 million in FY 2001. In 2001, HACU had 612 students working at Federal and corporate sites through their National Internship Program. They are firmly entrenched in the educational development of the Hispanic community. Universities affiliated with the HACU include; Arizona State University, University of Arizona, Texas A&M University, and the University of California - Los Angeles. (15)

Family

Fundamental to the Hispanic culture in general is the institution of the family. The family is considered the single most important institution in the social organization of Hispanics. It is through the family and its activities that Hispanics relate to significant others in their lives and it is through the family that people communicate with the larger society. (29:151)

Although the primary functions of the family are evident among all peoples, the family among Hispanics has been a central thread that connects a multitude of strands that make up their social world. The central importance in social-cultural functions and the values of cultural life expressed through the family are emphasized in all studies focusing on Hispanics throughout the Hispanic world. There is no argument that when compared to the U.S. population in general, Hispanics place special emphasis, sentiment, and value on the family. (29:151)

The concept of family among all Hispanics refers to more than just the nuclear family that consists of a household of a man, wife, and their children. Rather, the family incorporates the idea of *la familia* (the greater family), which includes, in addition to the immediate nuclear household, relatives that are traced on both the female and male sides. This includes parents, grandparents, brothers and sisters, cousins, and to a certain extent, any blood relatives that can be identified through the hierarchy of family surnames. This broad-ranging concept places individuals as well as nuclear families into a recognizable network of social relations within which mutual support and reciprocity occur. (28:215)

Other important terms in the Hispanic family structure:

Compadrazgo: Strong friendship relationship, in which friends are seen as members of the family.

Padrinos (godfather) or *Madrino* (godmother): Parents may choose close friends or relatives to become godparents. Traditionally, godparents serve as sponsors at a child's baptism and play an active role in the life of the child. (28: 215-219)

Conclusion

Hispanic Heritage Month is a time to recognize those that have made significant contributions in the past, recognize where the Hispanic culture is today, and look forward to a more diverse tomorrow. This is an opportunity not just for the Hispanic culture; it is for everyone. Understanding each other is key in maximizing the diversity that is America. Hispanic Americans will continue to grow and flourish because of the *Strength found in their Unity, Faith, and Diversity*.

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Hispanic Heritage Month

Begins September 15 - October 15 2002

Hispanic Americans: Strength in Unity, Faith, and Diversity

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
15 <i>Hispanic Heritage Month Begins</i>	16 <i>General Richard E. Cavazos First Hispanic 4-star general</i>	17 <i>Admiral Horacio Rivero First Hispanic 4-star admiral</i>	18 <i>Senator Dennis Chavez First Hispanic Senator</i>	19 <i>Pfc Guy Gabaldon WWII Hero</i>	20 <i>The National Hispanic University</i>	21 <i>Who is Hispanic?</i>
22 <i>Fastest Growing Segment of the Population</i>	23 <i>65th Infantry Regiment Borinqueneers Only all-Hispanic unit to serve in Korean War</i>	24 <i>Dr. Franklin Chang-Diaz First Hispanic Astronaut</i>	25 <i>158th Infantry Regiment One of the first units in WWII combat</i>	26 <i>Cinco de Mayo</i>	27 <i>200th Coast Artillery National Guard "First to Fire"</i>	28 <i>Three Kings Day</i>
29 <i>Pvt David Barkley Army's First Hispanic Medal of Honor recipient</i>	30 <i>141st Infantry Regiment 362 days of combat in WWII</i>	1 <i>Edward Hidalgo First Hispanic Secretary of the U.S. Navy</i>	2 <i>1st Lt Oscar Perdoma WWII "Ace"</i>	3 <i>Lt Gen Edward D. Baca First Hispanic Chief of the National Guard Bureau</i>	4 <i>Brig Gen Carmelita Vigil-Schimenti First Hispanic female to attain rank of general</i>	5 <i>Cesar Chavez Hispanic American labor leader</i>
6 <i>Dr. Antonia Novello First Hispanic and first female Surgeon General</i>	7 <i>Carnaval</i>	8 <i>Pvt Marcelino Serna Single-handed capture of 24 German soldiers</i>	9 <i>Day of the Dead</i>	10 <i>Roberto Clemente First Hispanic inductee into Baseball Hall of Fame</i>	11 <i>Admiral David Farragut "Damn the torpedoes, full speed ahead..."</i>	12 <i>Dr. Luis Alvarez Awarded 1968 Nobel Peace Prize in Physics</i>
13 <i>Louis Caldera First Hispanic Secretary of the U.S. Army</i>	14 <i>Dr. Ellen Ochoa First Hispanic female astronaut</i>	15 <i>Sammy Sosa Five-time National Baseball League All-Star</i>	Facts about each date are located at Appendix A.			

Appendix A

The following calendar provides a daily snapshot of information regarding Hispanic culture and achievements. This format offers the opportunity to highlight, on a daily basis, an event, or individual throughout the entire observance. Please note that the items listed are not linked to a specific day.

Sunday	Hispanic Heritage Month	September 15, 2002
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On September 17, 1968, Public Law 90-498 authorized the President to annually establish a week in September that includes the 15th and 16th as National Hispanic Heritage Week. September 15 is Latin American Independence Day, and September 16 is Mexican Independence Day. The resolution called upon the people of the United States, especially the educational community, to observe such a week with appropriate ceremonies and activities. (26:1) On August 17, 1988, Public Law 100-402 amended Public Law 90-498 and lengthened National Hispanic Heritage Week to National Hispanic Heritage Month. Hispanic Heritage Month runs from September 15 to October 15 every year. (19:1) The theme of this year's observance is, "Hispanic Americans: Strength in Unity, Faith, and Diversity." The overall goal of this month is to increase awareness and knowledge of the Hispanic culture, diversity, and accomplishments. (11)

Monday	General Richard E. Cavazos	September 16, 2002
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Born on January 31, 1929, in Kingsville, Texas, Richard E. Cavazos would become the *Army's first Hispanic four-star general*. He received a BS degree in Geology from Texas Technological University and was commissioned a second lieutenant through the ROTC program on June 15, 1951. He was a decorated platoon and company commander in the Korean War and served as a battalion commander in the Vietnam War. From March 1, 1982 until his retirement June 17, 1984, he served as Commander of the United States Armed Forces Command (FORSCOM), at Fort McPherson, Georgia. Under his command, combat troops were deployed to Granada. During his distinguished career, he received 13 outstanding decorations. (21:105) (23)

Tuesday	Admiral Horacio Rivero	September 17, 2002
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Born 1910, in Puerto Rico, Horacio Rivero became the *first Hispanic four-star admiral* in 1964. He received his commission June 4, 1931, after graduating from the Naval Academy with distinction (3rd out of 441). As a junior officer, he served aboard the USS Northampton, USS Chicago, USS New Mexico, USS California, and the USS Pennsylvania. He later attended the Naval postgraduate school and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where he earned a Master of Science in Electrical Engineering. In 1964, he was promoted to admiral and became vice chief of naval operations. In 1968, ADM Rivero commanded NATO forces as Commander in Chief of Allied Forces, Southern Europe. He retired in 1972. (21:104)

Wednesday	Senator Dennis Chavez	September 18, 2002
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Born April 18, 1888 of Mexican parents, Dennis Chavez, in 1936, became the *first Hispanic elected to the U.S. Senate*. Elected from the state of New Mexico, he held that seat until his death in 1962. Senator Chavez introduced the Fair Employment Practices Bill, which was a predecessor to the Civil Rights Act. His granddaughter, Gloria Tristani served as commissioner on the Federal Communications Commission under President Clinton. (17:1) (18)

Thursday	Private First Class Guy Gabaldon	September 19, 2002
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Marine Private First Class Guy “Gabby” Gabaldon, *WWII hero*, has the distinction of capturing more enemy soldiers than anyone else in the history of U.S. military conflicts. A Hispanic American, Gabaldon was taught Japanese by his adoptive parents. When the U.S. entered WWII, Gabaldon joined the Marines, and served as a mortar crewman, Japanese translator, and scout observer. While serving as a Japanese interpreter on Saipan, he received a Silver Star for obtaining vital information and capturing more than 1,000 enemy personnel in the face of direct fire. PFC Gabaldon was able to persuade the weakened Japanese soldiers to surrender, in spite of their orders to fight to the last man. His Silver Star was elevated to a Navy Cross in December of 1960. (21:45)

Friday	The National Hispanic University	September 20, 2002
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The National Hispanic University (NHU), located in San Jose, California, was established in 1981 as a baccalaureate degree granting institution that would serve the needs of Latinos and other learners. The Accrediting Council of Independent Colleges and Schools (ACICS) and the California Teacher Credentialing Commission (CTC) accredits NHU. With currently over 500 active students, NHU provides baccalaureate degrees in Liberal Studies, Computer Information Systems and Business Administration. The NHU also provides various teaching credential programs. Over eighty percent of the students are of Hispanic descent. (37:1)

Saturday	Who is Hispanic?	September 21, 2002
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The Federal government considers race and Hispanic origin to be two separate and distinct concepts. For the 2000 Census, every individual was asked a separate question; first on Hispanic heritage and then on race. The question on Hispanic origin asked “Is this person Spanish / Hispanic / Latino?” This was followed by a question on race, which asked the respondents to report the race or races they considered themselves to be. Both questions were based on self-identification, but note that selecting Hispanic, Spanish, or Latino was not included as an option for race. As a result, if an individual reported that they were of Hispanic origin, then they were included in the overall Hispanic count, regardless of their race. This same individual was also included in whatever race they identified. (56:1) Of those responding as Hispanic, 48% identified their race as “White,”

and 42% reported only “some other race.” Mexicans made up 58% of all Hispanics, followed by Puerto Ricans at 10% and Cubans at 3.5%. (57:1) Department of Defense directive 1350.2 defines Hispanic as “A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Mexico, Puerto Rico, Cuba, Central or South America, or of other Spanish cultures, regardless of race.” (9A) The term Hispanic is controversial in many sections. Many feel that “Hispanic” over-emphasizes the role of European influences in shaping ethnic identity, while neglecting South and Central cultures. (58:1) Some prefer Latino because it identifies the Latin American influence. (2:1)

Sunday	Fastest Growing Segment of the Population	September 22, 2002
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In the 1990 Census, Hispanics were 9% of the United States population, with 22 million reported Hispanics. In the 2000 Census, Hispanics made up 12.5% of the population with 35 million, an increase of 58%. That is astounding when compared to an overall population increase of only 13.2%. This made Hispanics the fastest growing segment of the United States population. When using multi-cultural combinations, Whites increased by 8.6% and Blacks increased by 22%. Hispanics are projected to be 25% of the population by the year 2050. This would make them by far the largest minority segment in the United States. (54:1)

Monday	65th Infantry Regiment (Borinqueneers)	September 23, 2002
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The 65th Infantry Regiment, based in Puerto Rico, was the *only all-Hispanic unit to serve during the Korean War*. Nicknamed the “Borinqueneers” in honor of a native Puerto Rican Indian tribe, the 65th displayed true heart and valor during the Korean War. (9:1) During a three-year period from 1950 – 1953, the unit participated in nine major campaigns, earning a Presidential Unit Citation, a Meritorious Unit Commendation, and two Republic of Korea Unit Citations. Individual unit members earned 4 Distinguished Service Crosses and 124 Silver Stars. (20:1)

Tuesday	Dr. Franklin Chang-Diaz	September 24, 2002
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In January 1986, Dr. Franklin Chang-Diaz became the *first Hispanic to travel to outer space*. Aboard the Space Shuttle Columbia, Dr. Chang-Diaz was part of a six-day flight, deployed a satellite, conducted various experiments, and completed 96 orbits of the earth. The mission duration was over 146 hours. He has since completed five others space visits aboard the Space Shuttle Atlantis (2) and Discovery (3). Dr. Chang-Diaz holds a Mechanical Engineering degree from the University of Connecticut, and a doctorate in Applied Plasma Physics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). (34:1)

Wednesday	158th Infantry Regiment (Bushmasters)	September 25, 2002
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During World War II, the 158th Infantry Regiment was *one of the first units to see combat in the Pacific*. The Arizona National Guard unit was referred to “as the greatest fighting combat team ever deployed for battle” by General Douglas MacArthur. The unit

was originally called into service for WWII in September of 1940. At that time, the 158th was sent to Fort Sill, Oklahoma for training. When the U.S. officially entered the war, after the December 7 bombing of Pearl Harbor, the 158th was sent to Panama for jungle training and to guard the Panama Canal. It was there that they adopted the Bushmaster snake for their insignia. It saw combat in New Guinea, the Philippines, and finally, occupation duty in Yokohama, Japan. (45:1)

Thursday	Cinco de Mayo	September 26, 2002
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Cinco de Mayo is not Mexican Independence Day (that is September 16). Cinco de Mayo or “The Fifth of May” is a celebration that commemorates the defeat of the French army by the Mexicans at the Battle of Puebla, May 5, 1862. (6:1) This is celebrated primarily in Mexico and U.S. cities with a significant Mexican population. After the Mexican-American War and the Mexican Civil War of 1858, the Mexican economy was left in a crisis. Mexico had accumulated heavy debts to several nations, including Spain, England, and France. The Mexican government was able to make arrangements with Spain and England, but France decided to use the debt issue as an opportunity to add to its empire. The French sent Maximillion (Napoleon’s nephew) and some 6,000 troops to Mexico to assume control of Mexico City. The United States was embroiled in the middle of the Civil War and was unable to assist Mexico against the French invasion. That left the defense of Mexico City to an under-equipped force of 4,000 soldiers against the swelling ranks of the French, who now numbered 8,000 after picking-up an additional 2,000 sympathetic Mexicans. The two forces met in Puebla on May 5, 1862. When the battle was over, the French were forced to retreat. From that day on, La Batalla de Puebla, or Cinco de Mayo became a source of pride and a battle cry for the Mexican people. (33:1)

Friday	200th Coast Artillery (NG)	September 27, 2002
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The 200th Coast Artillery, a New Mexico National Guard unit, was sent to the Philippines before the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, to bolster the Philippines defenses. The unit was selected because of the high number of unit members that spoke Spanish, the principle language of the Philippines. Six hours after the Japanese struck Pearl Harbor, the Japanese attacked the Philippines. Responding with anti-aircraft fire, the 200th became the **“first to fire” in the Pacific theater**. The 200th eventually surrendered on April 9, 1941 and began the infamous 12-day, 85-mile “Bataan Death March” to a Japanese prison camp. They remained prisoners of war for three and a half years. Only half of the New Mexico guard members survived. The unit was honored with four Presidential Unit Citations and the Philippine Presidential Citation. (21:38)

Saturday	Three Kings Day	September 28, 2002
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Almost everyone has heard of the twelve days of Christmas. Here in the United States, most people think of them starting on December 13 and ending on December 25. However, for centuries, church calendars in the East and the West have agreed that there

are twelve days of Christmas, but they begin on Christmas Day and end on January 6. The twelve days of Christmas end with the Feast of Epiphany also called “The Adoration of the Magi” or “The Manifestation of God.” Celebrated on January 6, it is known as the day of the Three Kings (or wise men/magi): Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar. According to an old legend based on a Bible story, these three kings saw a bright star on the night when Christ was born. The Three Kings followed it to Bethlehem, found the Christchild, and presented him with gold, frankincense, and myrrh. (50:1)

January 6, Three Kings Day, comes with its own traditions, rituals, and symbols. Carolers visit from house to house and in many homes, this is the day the Christmas tree is taken down. In some areas, the Christmas tree is then burnt in a big bonfire. In many Hispanic countries and households around the world, this, not December 25, is the day that children receive their Christmas gifts. The Three Kings will only come and bring their gifts if the children have been good all year. If the children are awake, then the Kings will bypass the house.

In the fourth century, the Western Christian Church adopted December 25 as the Date of the Feast of Christ’s Birth. It is believed that this change in date gave rise to the Twelve Days of Christmas tradition. While the Western Christian Church celebrates December 25, the Eastern Christian Church recognizes January 6 as the celebration of the nativity and the physical birthday in Bethlehem. In the Teutonic west, Epiphany became the Festival of the Three Kings (i.e., the Magi), or simply Twelfth Day. (43:1)

Sunday	Private David Barkley	September 29, 2002
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The *Army's first Hispanic Medal of Honor recipient*, Private David Barkley was born in Laredo, Texas in 1899. During World War I, serving the U.S. Army, Barkley went above and beyond the call of duty and, for his actions, won the Medal of Honor. On November 9, 1918, Barkley swam across the icy, turbulent Meuse River, risking his life to locate the enemy's position. Courageously, Barkley mapped the locations of enemy artillery units by crawling 400 yards behind enemy lines. As he and an accomplice swam back across the river, the enemy discovered the two men and opened fire. Sadly, the raging river pulled Barkley under as he succumbed to cramps. His partner made it safely to shore with the intelligence and maps. Because of the efforts of Barkley and his partner, the unit was able to launch a successful attack against the enemy. During the Hispanic Heritage Week on Sept. 16, 1989, Barkley was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor. (22:1) (31)

Monday	141st Infantry Regiment (36th Infantry Division)	September 30, 2002
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The 141st Infantry Regiment was a unit of the 36th Infantry Division from Texas. The 141st had a high concentration of Hispanics. The men of the 141st experienced **362 days of combat during WWII**: 137 days in Italy; 204 in France; 17 in Germany; and four in Austria. Because of this intensive combat, the 141st sustained over 6,000 casualties; including over 500 missing in action, 5,000 wounded and 1,126 killed. In recognition of their extended service and valor, members of the 141st received 3 Medals of Honor, 31

Distinguished Service Crosses, 12 Legion of Merits, 492 Silver Stars, 11 Soldier's Medals, 1,685 Bronze Stars and numerous commendations and decorations. (21:29)

Tuesday	Secretary Edward Hidalgo	October 1, 2002
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Appointed by President Carter, in 1979, the Honorable Edward Hidalgo was the ***first Hispanic to serve as Secretary of the Navy*** (1979-1980). Before that position, he served as the Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Manpower, Reserve Affairs, and Logistics). Secretary Hidalgo was born in Mexico City, Mexico, on October 12, 1912. He became a resident of the United States at an early age. He received a BA, Magna Cum Laude, from Holy Cross in 1933, and a JD from Columbia Law School in 1936. In 1959, he received a degree in Civil Law from the University of Mexico. Secretary Hidalgo served as an air combat intelligence officer on the USS Enterprise (CV 6) during World War II and was awarded a Bronze Star for that service. During Hidalgo's tenure as Secretary of the Navy, new recruiting techniques and television advertising campaigns were implemented to inform Hispanic Americans about careers in the Navy. (21:130)

Wednesday	First Lieutenant Oscar Perdoma - WWII Ace	October 2, 2002
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Born June 14, 1919 in El Paso Texas of Mexican parents, Oscar Perdomo holds the distinction of being the last ***"Ace" of World War II***. What makes this remarkable is he earned the title of "Ace" in one day. The term "Ace" has been used since WWI. It designates a fighter pilot that destroys five or more enemy aircraft in aerial combat. As a member of the 464th Fighter Squadron, 507th Fighter Group USAAF, 1LT Perdomo recorded five kills on August 13, 1945. This was his tenth and last sortie of the war. With this, he received the distinction of being the last "Ace" of the war. For his actions, Perdomo received the Air Medal and the Distinguished Service Cross. (12:1)

Thursday	Lieutenant General Edward D. Baca	October 3, 2002
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On October 1, 1994, LTG Edward D. Baca was assigned as ***chief of the National Guard Bureau, making him the first Hispanic to hold the position***. In this position, he served as the senior uniformed National Guard officer responsible for all programs, policies, and plans affecting over 500,000 Army and Air National Guard personnel. Previous positions include adjutant general, secretary of the general staff, state assistant G-1, and state military personnel officer, all with the New Mexico National Guard. (16:1) LTG Baca graduated from State University of New York with a Bachelor of Science in Liberal Arts. He retired in July of 1998. (59:1)

Friday	Brigadier General Carmelita Vigil-Schimenti	October 4, 2002
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Carmelita Vigil-Schimenti was born in Albuquerque in 1936 where she lived at her family's ranch between Edgewood and Moriarty. She was the ***first Hispanic female to attain the rank of general*** in 1985 and was the first female general from New Mexico. She received her nursing diploma from Regina School of Nursing in Albuquerque.

Because of her work on the base, she decided to join the military as a nurse. She joined the Air Force in 1958 and held clinical, teaching, and administrative positions all over the world. She obtained a Bachelor of Science in Nursing in 1966 and an MA in Public Health in 1974. She attended the prestigious Air Force Flight Nurse School, the Air War College, and the Inter-Agency Institute. She began her military career as a hospital nurse at Wright Patterson Air Force Base in Ohio and served in the Pacific Theater during the Vietnam War. She earned many military decorations such as the Distinguished Service Medal, the Legion of Merit Medal, the Air Force Commendation Medal, and the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal. (24:4)

Saturday	Cesar Chavez	October 5, 2002
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American labor leader Cesar Chavez was born March 31, 1927, near Yuma, Arizona. His grandfather came to the United States from Chihuahua, Mexico in the 1880's to make a better life for his family. Cesar Chavez began his life as a migrant farm worker at the age of 10, when his family lost their land because of the great depression. Chavez eventually left school after the eighth grade to help support his family on a full-time basis. (44:2) In 1945, Chavez joined the U.S. Navy and served in the Western Pacific in the aftermath of World War II. He then returned to the farm fields of California, where he would begin his legacy of service. In 1952, he became a full-time organizer with the Community Service Organization (CSO), a self-help group among Mexican Americans. With the CSO, he organized voter registration drives, battled discrimination, and established CSO groups across California and Arizona.

In 1962, Chavez moved to Delano, California and established the National Farm Workers Association (NFWA). The name was later changed to the United Farm Workers (UFW). In 1966, the UFW was chartered by the American Federation of Labor and Congress on Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO) as the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee, with Chavez as its president. In 1968, Chavez gained attention as the leader of a nationwide boycott of California table grapes in a drive to achieve labor contracts. This strike and other actions lead to improved working conditions and signed bargaining agreements that greatly improved the working and economic conditions for migrant farmers. (3:2) Chavez was honored with the United States Presidential Medal of Freedom and the Mexican Aguila Azteca, each government's highest civilian award. March 21st is Cesar Chavez Day of Service and Learning, a state holiday in California. (5:1)

Sunday	Dr. Antonia Novello	October 6, 2002
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When she became the ***first female and the first Hispanic Surgeon General*** of the United States in 1991, Antonia Novello had a dual commitment — to women and to children. Antonia's concern for children sprang from personal experience. From birth, she suffered from a chronic colon condition that required hospitalization every summer and was not corrected until she was 20-years-old. Antonia's experiences as a patient caused her to choose medicine as a career and she earned both undergraduate and medical

degrees in her native Puerto Rico. She became a pediatrician so she could help other children in pain.

She rose through the ranks and, in 1986, became deputy director of the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development where she was an influential spokesperson for children with AIDS. Her involvement with pediatric AIDS brought her to the attention of President George Bush who nominated her for Surgeon General in 1990. Once she took office, Antonia began an all-out campaign against youth-focused advertising by the liquor and tobacco industries, continued her commitment to AIDS prevention and research, and worked hard to educate parents about the importance of childhood immunizations and preventive health care. Antonia also became a leading voice in women's health issues and was the first Surgeon General to bring the hidden tragedy of domestic violence into the national spotlight.

In 1991, she announced that past, present boyfriends, or husbands murder one-third of American women in any year and remarked that for American women the home is a more dangerous place than city streets. Because of her efforts, the medical community is now more in line with legal and social support services to end abuse against women. Since leaving office in 1993, Antonia has maintained a presence in the nations' public health community. From 1993 – 1996, she was the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) special representative for Health and Nutrition. In 1998, she received the Award for Leadership at the Hispanic Heritage 12th Annual Awards Gala at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C. (39) Dr. Novello became commissioner of health for the state of New York in 1999.

Monday	Carnaval	October 7, 2002
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This celebration takes place Saturday through Thursday, 40 days before Easter. It is also known as Mardi Gras, especially in the United States. In Brazil, it is a national holiday, and Brazilians have up to a week off to rest or party. Although the holiday follows the Christian calendar, the Church does not officially recognize it. Carnival was established as a period of celebration before the beginning of the 40-day Lenten season of fasting and prayer. The name is thought to come from the Italian *carne vale* or farewell to meat, which is not eaten during Lent. From this, the party atmosphere of Carnival and Mardi Gras has evolved. (49)

Tuesday	Private Marcelino Serna	October 8, 2002
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In 1918, Private Marcelino Serna received the Distinguished Service Cross for the *single-handed capture of 24 German soldiers*. After their capture, he prevented other soldiers in his unit from killing the prisoners, which would have been against the rules of war. His other decorations included the French Croix de Guerre, the Victory Medal with three bars, and two Purple Hearts. Private Marcelino Serna of Albuquerque, New Mexico, was the first Hispanic to be awarded for his actions in WWII. (21:35)

Wednesday	Day of the Dead	October 9, 2002
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Every November 1 and 2, members of Latin American cultures celebrate the Day of the Dead. This holiday is one of the most significant celebrations in Hispanic culture. Dia de los Muertos, Day of the Dead, merges pre-Columbian beliefs and modern Catholicism, creating a combination of All Saints Day and the Aztec worship of the dead. Rich in tradition, this celebration has expanded to America, where many Hispanic groups celebrate the Day of the Dead. It is a time when families remember their dead by visiting gravesites and having picnics, or having various meals to honor the dead. (8) It is a holiday with a complex history, and observances vary greatly. The Day of the Dead is to be a festive time, not a morbid, sad occasion. (32)

Thursday	Roberto Clemente	October 10, 2002
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The youngest of seven children, Roberto Clemente was born August 18, 1934, in Carolina, Puerto Rico. As a teenage sensation, the Brooklyn Dodgers scouted Clemente. The Dodgers signed him to a contract and brought him into the minor leagues. After a year in the minor leagues, the Pittsburgh Pirates drafted the teenage Clemente. The rest is history. Clemente went on to become one of the best baseball players ever, earning 12 Golden Gloves, a lifetime batting average of .317, over 3,000 career hits, four batting titles, and led the Pirates to two World Series Championships. Clemente's life was cut short, when on December 31, 1972, at the age of 38, he was killed in an airplane accident. Clemente was on his way to Nicaragua to bring relief supplies to victims of an earthquake that killed thousands, when the DC-7 he was aboard exploded and crashed in the Atlantic Ocean. There were no survivors. The mandatory five-year waiting period was waived and on August 6, 1973 Roberto Clemente was posthumously elected to the baseball Hall of Fame. He became the *first Hispanic inductee into the Baseball Hall of Fame*. (46)

Friday	Admiral David Farragut	October 11, 2002
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"Damn the torpedoes, full speed ahead," is one of the most famous battle cries. ADM Farragut shouted this during the battle for control of the port to Mobile, Alabama, during the Civil War. The torpedoes were actually anchored mines that blocked the entrance to the Mobile Bay. In the course of the battle, Farragut led his fleet into battle and into the bay with that cry. The union fleet, under Farragut's direction, went on to defeat the Confederate forces and took control of Mobile. Farragut was commissioned as Admiral of the Navy on July 26, 1866. The most famous Hispanic participant in the Union forces, David Farragut was born on July 5, 1801. His father, a Spaniard, had come to the United States in 1776 and had participated in the American Revolutionary War and the War of 1812.

Saturday

Dr. Luis Alvarez

October 12, 2002

Dr. Luis Alvarez, an American physicist, was born in 1911 and died on September 1, 1988. His grandfather came to the United States from Spain, via Cuba, before finally settling in San Francisco. (41) He attended the University of Chicago in 1928, where he would receive his bachelors, masters, and doctoral degrees in Physics. Dr. Alvarez then joined the faculty at the University of California at Berkley, where he would remain until 1978. Alvarez's scientific contributions to the military during World War II included the development of a narrow beam radar system that allowed airplanes to land in inclement weather. He was also involved in the Manhattan Project to develop the world's first nuclear weapons. In fact, Alvarez flew in the B-29 bomber that observed the first test of an atomic device at Alamogordo, south of Los Alamos, New Mexico. Then, three weeks later, Alvarez was aboard another B-29 following the "Enola Gay" as it dropped the first atomic bomb on Hiroshima, Japan. As most scientists associated with the Manhattan Project, Alvarez was stunned and horrified by the destructiveness of the weapon he helped create.

However, he never expressed any doubts or hesitation about the decision to use the bombs, since they ended the war. Alvarez became one of a small number of scientists that felt the United States should continue its nuclear weapons development after the war, and develop a hydrogen bomb as soon as possible. (38) Among the many honors that Alvarez received during his lifetime was the **1968 Nobel Prize in Physics** for his development of giant bubble chambers used to detect a variety of subatomic particles. In another twist in his diverse career, in 1980, Alvarez along with his son Walter developed a theory about the extinction of the dinosaurs. Together, they hypothesized that a giant asteroid struck the earth about 65 million years ago, sending huge volumes of smoke and dust into the atmosphere blocking sunlight for an extended period. This caused the end of plant life on the earth and, in turn, brought about the extinction of the dinosaurs. This theory has been supported by strong geological evidence and is widely accepted by many scientists. (53)

Sunday

Secretary Louis Caldera

October 13, 2002

Born in El Paso Texas, on April 1, 1956, the eldest son of Mexican immigrants, Louis Caldera became the 17th **Secretary of the Army** in July of 1998. He was the **first Hispanic** to hold the position. (1) He was commissioned in the Military Police Corps in 1978 and served as platoon leader, battalion intelligence officer, and battalion executive officer before resigning his commission in 1983. He earned a law degree and an MBA from Harvard in 1987 and entered private law practice for three years. After representing Los Angeles County as deputy county counsel for one year, he served for five years as an assemblyman in the California legislature. Before he became the Secretary of the Army, he moved to Washington to serve as the managing director and chief operating officer for the Corporation for National Service. As Secretary of the Army, he managed a work force of more than 1 million soldiers and 270,000 civilian employees. (14) During his tenure as Secretary of the Army, the Army began its historic transformation from a Cold

War legacy force to a rapidly deployable, information-age, Army. (52) Mr. Caldera is currently vice chancellor at California State University.

Monday	Dr. Ellen Ochoa	October 14, 2002
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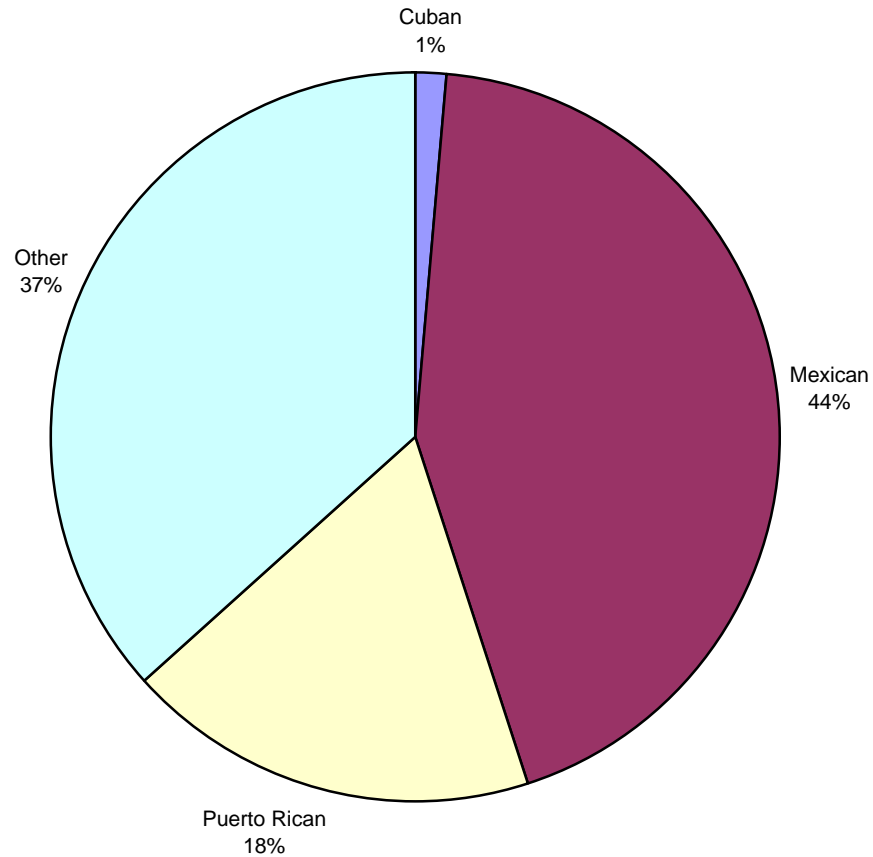
In 1990, California-born Dr. Ellen Ochoa was selected by NASA and became the *first Hispanic female astronaut*. Born May 10, 1958, Ochoa received a bachelor of science degree in Physics from San Diego State University, a master of science, and a doctorate, in Electrical Engineering from Stanford University. (36) She is a veteran of three space flights and has logged over 719 hours in space. Dr. Ochoa coordinated the transfer of supplies and operated the Remote Manipulator System (RMS) during an 8-hour space walk while participating in the first docking of the International Space Station. She is a co-inventor on three patents for an optical inspection system, an optical object recognition method, and a method for noise removal in images. (35)

Tuesday	Sammy Sosa	October 15, 2002
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Sammy Sosa is the slugging Chicago Cub who surpassed Roger Maris' season home run record (61), just after Mark McGwire did, in 1998 and finished the year with 66. He was the National League MVP that same year. Sosa followed up his amazing 1998 season, by hitting 63 home runs in 1999, and added 141 RBIs. He is a *five-time NL all-star* (1995, 98, 99, 00, 01) and winner of the 2000 Home Run Crown. (25) Sosa grew up in the Dominican Republic, the fifth of seven children. Baseball was his way out of poverty. His foundation raised \$700,000 in support of the Dominican's that were hit by savage hurricanes in 2000. (30)

Appendix B

Active Duty Hispanics in the Department of Defense by Ethnicity



Source: Defense Data Manpower Center, April 2002